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Committee for Programme and Coordination

Fifty-seventh session

Organizational session, 20 April 2017

Substantive session, 5-30 June 2017*

Item 2 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Annotated provisional agenda

Provisional agenda

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Programme questions:
 - (a) Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018-2019;
 - (b) Evaluation.
4. Coordination questions:
 - (a) Report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination;
 - (b) New Partnership for Africa's Development.
5. Report(s) of the Joint Inspection Unit.
6. Provisional agenda for the fifty-eighth session.
7. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its fifty-seventh session.

* The dates for the substantive session are tentative.



Annotations

1. Election of officers

At its twenty-fifth session, the Committee for Programme and Coordination reaffirmed the decision made at its twenty-fourth session that the post of its Chair, as well as the other posts on the Bureau, should rotate annually among the regional groups and decided on the following pattern of rotation for the post of the Chair: (a) Group of African States; (b) Group of Eastern European States; (c) Group of Latin American and Caribbean States; (d) Group of Western European and other States; and (e) Group of Asia-Pacific States. The Committee also decided that each year the post of Rapporteur should be occupied by a member of the regional group that occupied the post of the Chair in the previous year.

At its fifty-seventh session, the Committee may wish to elect the Chair from the Group of Western European and other States, in accordance with the agreed pattern of rotation among regional groups, and the Rapporteur from the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States, the regional group that occupied the post of Chair of the Committee the previous year.

2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Pursuant to paragraph 2 (e) of Economic and Social Council resolution 1979/41 and paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 34/50, the Committee submitted to the Council and the Assembly for their review the provisional agenda for its fifty-seventh session, together with the list of documentation requested.

In accordance with paragraph 6 of the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 2008 (LX), the reports of the Joint Inspection Unit concerning the economic, social and human rights programmes of the United Nations system, including the reports dealing with the United Nations Development Programme, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, shall be examined by the Committee, which shall report thereon to the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly. In its resolution 59/267, the Assembly invited the Committee, in performing its programmatic, coordination, monitoring and evaluation functions, as set out in its mandate, to consider relevant reports of the Unit. The Assembly, in its resolution 67/236, endorsed the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee contained in its report on its fifty-second session, including its recommendation that the Assembly urge the Unit to intensify its efforts to introduce to the Committee reports that are relevant to the function of the Committee, bearing in mind subparagraphs 4 (d) and (e) of article 11 of the statute of the Unit (A/67/16, para. 7). In that connection, the Committee will have before it for consideration under agenda 5, reports of the Unit which it had deferred from its fifty-sixth session.

Pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 37/234, 38/227 A, 42/215, 53/207 and 70/8, attention is drawn to Secretary-General's bulletin ST/SGB/2016/6, which contains the approved Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the

Methods of Evaluation, effective as of 1 January 2016.¹ The revised Regulations and Rules under articles I to VI were issued pursuant to resolution 70/8, in which the Assembly endorsed the recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination, as contained in chapter II, section A, of its report on its fifty-fifth session (A/70/16), on the proposed revisions to the Regulations and Rules as submitted by the Secretary-General in his report (A/68/74 and Corr.1). No revisions were made to article VII, Evaluation, or the annex; consideration of which was deferred for action at the fifty-seventh session of the Committee (see below, section 3, Programme questions, subsection (a), Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018-2019).

By its resolution 64/229, the General Assembly endorsed the recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination and decided not to include the agenda item entitled "Improving the working methods and procedures of the Committee for Programme and Coordination" in future sessions, and further decided to discuss related matters under the agenda item entitled "Adoption of the agenda and organization of work" as and when needed.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat on the status of documentation for the fifty-seventh session (E/AC.51/2017/L.1)

Note by the Secretariat on the reports of the Joint Inspection Unit (E/AC.51/2017/L.2)

3. Programme questions

(a) Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018-2019

In its resolution 58/269 entitled "Strengthening of the United Nations: an agenda for further change", the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to prepare, on a trial basis, for submission to the Assembly at its fifty-ninth session, a strategic framework to replace the four-year medium-term plan, which would comprise, in one document:

(a) Part one: a plan outline, reflecting the longer-term objectives of the Organization;

(b) Part two: a biennial programme plan, to cover two years.

In its resolution 62/224, the General Assembly considered the recommendations of the Committee contained in chapter III, section A, of its report on its forty-seventh session (A/62/16), including the decision to maintain the strategic framework as the principal policy directive of the United Nations with effect from the biennium 2010-2011 and to continue to include part one, plan outline, in the strategic framework (A/62/16, subparas. 33 (a) and (b)). The Assembly also requested that the Secretary-General improve the format of part one and the reflection of the longer-term objectives therein (*ibid.*, subpara. 33 (c)) and reaffirmed that the Committee should, in performing its programmatic role in the planning and budgeting process, continue to review the programmatic aspects of the

¹ Bulletin ST/SGB/2016/6 supersedes bulletin ST/SGB/2000/8.

new and/or revised mandates approved subsequent to the adoption of the biennial programme plan, as well as any differences that might arise between the biennial programme plan and the programmatic aspects of the proposed programme budget, in accordance with its terms of reference, the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation and the relevant resolutions of the Assembly (*ibid.*, subpara. 33 (d)).

In paragraph 10 of the same resolution, the General Assembly recalled regulation 5.6 of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation, and reiterated that the Committee for Programme and Coordination should continue to perform its role in reviewing the strategic framework and recommend any necessary changes to the Economic and Social Council and the Assembly.

By its resolution 71/6, the General Assembly approved the proposed biennial programme plan for the period 2018-2019 (A/71/6/Rev.1) and decided on the priorities for the period 2018-2019, which would form the basis for the preparation of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018-2019.

Regarding the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation, in its resolution 70/8, the General Assembly endorsed the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee contained in its report on its fifty-fifth session (A/70/16), which, in addition to revisions to articles I to VI of the Regulations and Rules, included: (a) the deferral of consideration by the Committee of the proposed revisions to article VII, Evaluation, of the Regulations and Rules (see A/68/74 and Corr.1) to its fifty-seventh session; and (b) a request that the Secretary-General present proposals for further revisions to article VII and the annex to the Regulations and Rules, taking into account relevant resolutions of the Assembly.

Documentation

Biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2018-2019 (A/71/6/Rev.1)

Report of the Secretary-General: consolidated report on the changes to the biennial programme plan as reflected in the programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017 and the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018-2019 (A/72/___)

Relevant sections of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018-2019 (issued as fascicles)

Report of the Secretary-General on proposed revisions to article VII of and the annex to the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation (A/72/___)

(b) Evaluation

In its resolution 62/224, the General Assembly endorsed the recommendations of the Committee at its forty-seventh session on improving the working methods

and procedures of the Committee within the framework of its mandate, whereby the Committee would consider in-depth and thematic evaluation reports, as well as the report on strengthening the role of evaluation and the application of evaluation findings on programme design, delivery and policy directives, in budget years, without prejudice to its consideration of evaluation reports in off-budget years, upon its request or that of the Office of Internal Oversight Services, taking into account rule 107.2 of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation.

(i) Strengthening the role of evaluation findings in programme design, delivery and policy directives

In accordance with regulation 7.4 of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation, the Committee will consider the report of the Secretary-General on the strengthening of the evaluation role and the application of evaluation findings in programme design, delivery and policy directives. In that regard, the attention of the Committee is drawn to the relevant sections of General Assembly resolutions 36/228 B, 37/234, 38/227 A and B, 42/215, 43/219, 44/194, 45/253, 51/219, 53/207, 55/234, 57/282, 59/275, 61/235, 64/229, 66/8, 68/20 and 70/8.

Documentation

Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on strengthening the role of evaluation and the application of evaluation findings on programme design, delivery and policy directives (A/72/_)

(ii) Programme and thematic evaluations

In its resolution 70/8, the General Assembly endorsed the recommendations of the Committee at its fifty-fifth session (A/70/16), including: (a) selecting the programme evaluations of the Department of Political Affairs, the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, substantive support and programme components of the executive direction and management components of the programme budget section on "Overall policymaking, direction and coordination": Executive Office of the Secretary-General, and the Offices of the Special Representatives of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, on Sexual Violence in Conflict and on Violence against Children, for consideration by the Committee at its fifty-seventh session, in 2017; and (b) considering the thematic evaluations on the work of the regional commissions (Economic Commission for Africa, ECE, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and ESCWA) based on the completed evaluations of each entity from 2015 to 2017.

In its resolution 71/6, the General Assembly endorsed the recommendations of the Committee at its fifty-sixth session (A/71/16), including that the Committee should defer consideration of the reports of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the triennial review of the implementation of recommendations on the programme evaluation of the United Nations Environment Programme (E/AC.51/2016/2) and of the implementation of recommendations on the programme evaluation of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (E/AC.51/2016/3) to its fifty-seventh session.

Documentation

Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on programme evaluation of the Department of Political Affairs (E/AC.51/2017/6)

Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on programme evaluation of the Economic Commission for Europe (E/AC.51/2017/5)

Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on programme evaluation of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (E/AC.51/2017/4)

Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on programme evaluation of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (E/AC.51/2017/___)

Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on programme evaluation of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (E/AC.51/2017/___)

Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on programme evaluation of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (E/AC.51/2017/2)

Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on programme evaluation of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for 2017 (E/AC.51/2017/___)

Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on programme evaluation of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (E/AC.51/2017/3)

Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on programme evaluation of the substantive support and programme components of the Executive Office of the Secretary-General (E/AC.51/2017/___)

Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the thematic evaluation of the work of the regional commissions (E/AC.51/2017/___)

Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the triennial review of the implementation of recommendations made by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its fifty-third session on the programme evaluation of the United Nations Environment Programme (E/AC.51/2016/2)

Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the triennial review of the implementation of recommendations made by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its fifty-third session on the programme evaluation of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (E/AC.51/2016/3)

4. Coordination questions

(a) Report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination

In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 2008 (LX), the Committee will have before it the annual overview report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) for 2016.

In paragraph 8 of its resolution 71/6, the General Assembly endorsed the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee contained in chapter III, section A, of the report of the Committee on its fifty-sixth session (A/71/16), on the annual overview report of CEB for 2015. In its report, the Committee recommended that the Assembly take note of the annual overview report of CEB for 2015.

Documentation

Annual overview report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination for 2016 (E/2017/___)

(b) New Partnership for Africa's Development

In its resolution 60/257, the General Assembly endorsed the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee contained in chapter IV, section B, of the report of the Committee on its forty-fifth session (A/60/16 and Corr.1), on the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD). In paragraph 237 of the report, the Committee recommended that the Assembly request the Secretary-General to report to the Committee at its forty-sixth session, and annually thereafter, on the progress, including problems, obstacles and challenges, as well as the goals of the United Nations system, to be achieved in support of NEPAD.

In paragraph 8 of its resolution 71/6, the General Assembly endorsed the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee contained in chapter III, section B, of the report of the Committee on its fifty-sixth session (A/71/16) on United Nations system support for NEPAD. In its report, the Committee recommended that the Assembly endorse the conclusions and recommendations contained in paragraphs 112 to 121 of the report of the Secretary-General on United Nations system support for NEPAD (E/AC.51/2016/5), and request him to continue to include, in his future reports, detailed information relating to the possible outcomes of the achievement of NEPAD targets. The Committee also recommended, inter alia, that the Assembly reiterate its request to the organizations of the United Nations system to continue to promote greater coherence in their work in support of NEPAD, on the basis of the agreed clusters of the Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa, and to continue to mainstream the special needs of Africa into all of the system's normative and operational activities, including the financing of programmes and projects, resource mobilization and humanitarian assistance. The Committee further recommended that the Assembly request the United Nations system to continue to: (a) coordinate closely with the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency, as the technical body of the African Union, and other structures of the African Union Commission and the Partnership in order to support strategic plans of the African Union Commission and the 10-year implementation plan for Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want; (b) strengthen its support for the implementation of the NEPAD strategic plans and programmes in the context of the

Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement; and (c) take into consideration the views, comments and/or input of regional and subregional organizations, including the African Union, in policy formulations and decision-making, mainly in the areas of mediation, conflict prevention and peace and security, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and in full respect of the principles of ownership, impartiality and consent of the parties. The Committee recommended that the Assembly request the Secretary-General to ensure that activities under the United Nations system support for NEPAD in the areas of mediation and conflict prevention were harmonized and took into account existing mechanisms in the region and subregion, with a view to avoiding duplication and overlap, in accordance with the Charter and in full respect of the principles of ownership, impartiality and consent of the parties. The Committee also recommended that the reports of the Secretary-General on NEPAD continue to include information: (a) not only on seminars, workshops and meetings but also on other tangible actions and results in respect of United Nations system support for projects of the Partnership throughout Africa, while stressing that future reports should further enhance the focus on the impact, in both quantitative and qualitative terms, of the activities implemented by entities of the United Nations system in support of the Partnership, with regard to the resources; (b) on the activities undertaken by the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa in the areas of advocacy and analytical work, coherence and coordination and facilitation of intergovernmental deliberations relating to the provision of support by the United Nations system to the NEPAD agenda; and (c) on the activities undertaken to provide support to countries to address concerns regarding the protection of women and children, including from sexual violence. The need for United Nations entities to continue their efforts in support of the region to address new challenges relating to governance, extremism and terrorism, and those faced by young people, was emphasized, and the Committee recommended that the Secretary-General include information in that regard in his report. The important role played by the development of hard infrastructure in Africa, in particular energy, railways and highways, was recognized, and the Committee recommended that the Assembly reiterate its request to the Secretary-General to intensify his efforts to mobilize United Nations system support in that area, in particular for the initiatives of the regional economic communities. The Committee also emphasized the need for the continued implementation of activities relating to the monitoring mechanism to review commitments towards Africa's development and recommended that the Assembly request the Secretary-General to ensure that future reports on NEPAD continue to provide information in that regard. It noted with concern the continued delay in the recruitment of personnel to implement the mandates related to the monitoring mechanism and recommended that the Assembly request the Secretary-General to take appropriate measures to ensure that all approved capacity in the Office of the Special Adviser would be recruited as a matter of priority and without further delay so as to avoid a negative impact on mandate delivery.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on United Nations system support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development (E/AC.51/2017/___)

5. Report(s) of the Joint Inspection Unit

In chapter IV of the report of the Committee on its fifty-sixth session (A/71/16), the Committee decided to defer consideration to its fifty-seventh session of the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Analysis of the evaluation function in the United Nations system" (A/70/686) and the note by the Secretary-General transmitting his comments and those of CEB on that report (A/70/686/Add.1).

Documentation

Report(s) of the Joint Inspection Unit (see E/AC.51/2017/L.2)

6. Provisional agenda for the fifty-eighth session

Pursuant to paragraph 3 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1894 (LVII), the Committee will have before it the draft provisional agenda for its fifty-eighth session, with an indication of the documents to be submitted under each agenda item and the legislative authority for their preparation, in order to enable the Committee to consider those documents, their contribution to its work, their urgency and their relevance in the light of the current situation.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat on the provisional agenda and documentation for the fifty-eighth session of the Committee (E/AC.51/2017/L.3)

7. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its fifty-seventh session

The report of the Committee on its fifty-seventh session will be submitted to the Economic and Social Council at its coordination and management meeting to be held in July 2017 and to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session.

Documentation

Draft report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the work of its fifty-seventh session (E/AC.51/2017/L.4 and addenda)

Annex**Members of the Committee for Programme and Coordination
for 2017^a**

<i>Membership in 2017</i>	<i>Term expires on 31 December*</i>
Argentina	2018
Armenia	2017
Bangladesh	2019
Belarus	2017
Brazil	2017
Burkina Faso	2017
Cameroon	2017
China	2019
Cuba	2017
Egypt	2019
Equatorial Guinea	2017
Eritrea	2019
France	2018
Haiti	2019
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	2017
Iraq	2017
Italy	2017
Namibia	2017
Pakistan	2017
Peru	2018
Portugal	2017
Republic of Korea	2019
Russian Federation	2018
Saudi Arabia	2017
Senegal	2019

<i>Membership in 2017</i>	<i>Term expires on 31 December*</i>
Ukraine	2017
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	2017
United Republic of Tanzania	2018
United States of America	2017
Uruguay	2017
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	2017
Zimbabwe	2018

^a The Economic and Social Council decided to further postpone the nomination to fill two outstanding vacancies in the Committee, both from Western European and other States and both for terms beginning on the date of election by the General Assembly: one for a term expiring on 31 December 2017 and one for a term expiring on 31 December 2018 (see Economic and Social Council decision 2016/201 D and General Assembly decision 71/414).